

**Fort Sill Legal Assistance Office
&
Reynolds Army Community Hospital
CELEBRATING
National Healthcare Decisions Day!**

April 16th

0830-1630

At the RACH

Atrium Concourse

No Appointment Needed

**Free To ALL Military
ID Card Holders**

**Active Duty,
Family Members,
Retirees**

What Does This Mean To You?

**FREE, IMPORTANT
Legal Documents!**

**Do Not
Resuscitate
Consent**

**Durable Power
of Attorney for
Health Care**

**Advance Directive
for Health Care
(Living Will)**

**For more information and to obtain forms in advance,
please visit us at the Fort Sill homepage.**

ADVANCE DIRECTIVE FOR HEALTH CARE

The Oklahoma Advance Directive for Health Care (Living Will) is a document that allows you to express your wishes regarding whether or not you want doctors to provide, decline or withdraw medical care when you've been diagnosed as having either a terminal condition, end-stage disease or are persistently unconscious.

Terminal condition is an incurable and irreversible condition which will result in death within six months, even with the administration of life-sustaining treatment, as determined by two doctors.

End-stage disease is a condition caused by injury, disease or illness which results in severe and permanent deterioration indicated by incompetency and complete physical dependency for which treatment of the irreversible condition would be medically ineffective.

Persistently unconscious is an irreversible condition, in which thought and awareness of self and environment are absent, as determined by two doctors. This is commonly referred to as being in an irreversible coma or vegetative state.

The Living Will also allows you to appoint a ***health care proxy*** and an alternate. This is someone you desire to make health care decisions for you when you cannot speak for yourself. Your health care proxy is authorized to make whatever medical treatment decisions you could make if able, except that he or she must follow your designated decisions regarding the type of care you want to receive in the above three situations.

The Living Will also gives you the opportunity to direct ***organ donations*** you may desire. If you want to be a donor, you may donate your entire body or just selected body organs or parts for all or any one of the purposes of transplantation, therapy, advancement of medical science, research or education. If you choose not to make any anatomical gifts, you simply do not complete the organ donation section. Your Living Will is fully valid if you choose not to make any anatomical gifts.

DURABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HEALTH CARE

A Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care is a document that allows you to delegate health care decisions to a chosen person in the event of your disability or inability to speak for yourself. This person cannot make life-sustaining decisions for you but may make other medical decisions for you, including:

- Employing or terminating health care personnel
- Authorizing pain relief
- Granting access to medical information and granting releases
- Securing admissions to and discharges from medical, rehab and hospice facilities
- Filing and releasing claims

The person nominated in a Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care has similar powers to that of the **health care proxy** in the Oklahoma Advance Directive for Health Care. It is recommended that the same individual be named as the agent in both documents as to avoid a conflict between two different appointed health care agents.

DO-NOT-RESUSCITATE CONSENT

The Oklahoma Do-Not-Resuscitate Consent is a legal directive that may be used by persons who, because of their condition, want to direct that CPR **not** be given under any circumstance, in the event of heart or respiratory failure. This directive does not affect a health care provider's duty to provide other emergency care including the Heimlich maneuver.